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**CITY OF GAITHERSBURG  
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 20, 2007  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING**

A meeting of the Historic District Commission was called to order at 8:34 p.m., Chair Katz presiding. Commissioners present: Alster, Marraffa, Schlichting and Sesma. Staff present: City Manager Humpton, Planner Patula, City Attorney Borten and Executive Assistant Stokes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Commissioner Schlichting, seconded by Commissioner Alster, that the minutes of a Historic District Commission meeting held June 18, 2007, be approved.

Vote: 5-0

**CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL**

- **HAWP-92C - Applicant: Michael Stumborg, 15 Walker Avenue, Removal of Rear Solarium/Replace with Enclosed Porch**

Motion was made by Historic District Commissioner Alster, seconded by Commissioner Marraffa, that the Historic District Commission grant approval of HAWP-92C and issue the Certificate of Approval, finding, based on the record before HPAC and for the reasons articulated by HPAC, that the application meets Secretary of Interior Standards Nine and Ten and the Brookes, Russell, Walker Historic District Design Guidelines.

Vote: 5-0

- **HAWP-109 - Applicant: Neang Lin, for Hak Srun Lin, 24 Chestnut Street, Expansion of Concrete Driveway**

Planner Patula stated that the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee (HPAC) recommended approval of the above at their June 7, 2007 public hearing with the following four conditions that relate specifically to the construction of the driveway:

- 1) Applicant should keep the outer edge of the new concrete driveway in line with the existing driveway edge.
- 2) The driveway should have a minimum one-half inch per foot slope away from the house.
- 3) The concrete for the extended driveway should have a minimum six-inch thickness.
- 4) The material for the driveway should include a six by six welded wire mesh and be approved by staff prior to installation.

Motion was made by Historic District Commissioner Sesma, seconded by Commissioner Alster, that the Historic District Commission grant approval of HAWP-109, with four conditions, and issue the Certificate of Approval, finding, based on the record before HPAC and for the reasons articulated by HPAC, that the application meets Secretary of Interior Standards One and the Chestnut/Meem Historic District Design Guidelines.

Vote: 5-0

## **POLICY DISCUSSION**

- **HAWP-95A - Applicant: Irfan Khan, (Retroactive), 112 Meem Avenue, An Amendment to HAWP-95, Change of Materials/Window Style/Roof**

Planner Patula stated that the application HAWP-95 was approved by the Historic District Commission on June 6, 2005, and site plan approval by the Planning Commission on May 18, 2005. She added that the property is a non-contributing resource in the Chestnut/Meem Historic District. The applicant proceeded with work on the existing house which did not conform to the approved plans. The applicant is now requesting a retroactive amendment to the approved plan to complete the work on the property. The HPAC held a public hearing on the request and vote unanimously to recommend denial of HAWP-95A, finding the completed work a significant deviation from the approved plan and found that it lacked compatibility with the original structure. Due to the unanimous recommendation for denial by the HPAC and the letters of support from neighbors, it was suggested that the Historic District Commission conduct their own public hearing to further review the requested amendment and receive input from neighbors. Mr. Khan agreed to extension of the 45 day limit.

Motion was made by Historic District Commissioner Sesma, seconded by Commissioner Marraffa, that the Historic District Commission extend HAWP-95A to a 45 day limit, and conduct a public hearing at a future meeting.

Vote: 5-0

- **Historic Significance of 201 East Diamond Avenue, Applicant: Charles Blessing, for Inter-Continental Group, Demolition Permit**

Planner Patula stated that staff is seeking a decision whether or not to hold a public hearing on the historic significance of the above or to determine if the demolition permit should be granted. She stated that the Maryland Historical Trust Inventory of Historic Properties Form states that the site is significant. The HPAC visited the site and at their August 2, 2007 meeting, based on the criteria in Section 24-226 for designation of historic sites, voted unanimously that the building does not qualify for historic designation. If the demolition permit is issued, it was suggested that the developer of the new structure place a plaque recognizing the significance of the history of the site.

Motion was made by Historic District Commissioner Marraffa, seconded by Commissioner Alster, that the Historic District Commission directs the City Manager to issue a demolition permit for 201 East Diamond Avenue, with the three conditions of HPAC.

Vote: 5-0

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Historic District Commission, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

**Doris R. Stokes**

Executive Assistant